

MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF SANTA FE
FINANCE COMMITTEE

Santa Fe, New Mexico

August 18, 2003

A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fe Finance Committee was called to order on this date at approximately 5:15 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers. Roll Call indicated the presence of a quorum, as follows:

Members Present:

Councilor Carol Robertson Lopez, Chair
Councilor Miguel M. Chavez
Councilor Karen Heldmeyer
Councilor Rebecca Wurzbarger

Members Excused:

Councilor Matthew E. Ortiz

Other Governing Body Members Present:

Councilor David Coss

Staff Present:

Ms. Teresita Garcia, Finance & Budget Division
Ms. Terrie Medina, Finance & Budget Division
Mr. Jim Romero, City Manager

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Councilor Heldmeyer moved approval of the Agenda, as published.
Councilor Chavez seconded the motion, which passed 3-0 by voice vote.**

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Upon motion by Councilor Wurzburger, seconded by Councilor Heldmeyer, the following Consent Agenda, as amended, was approved 3-0 by voice vote:

- 6) Request for Approval of Two (2) Grant Applications — Airport Projects and Snow Removal Equipment; New Mexico State Department of Transportation Aviation Division.
- 7) Request for Approval of Grant Application — Airport Projects and Snow Removal Equipment; U.S. Department of Transportation — U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration.
- 8) Request for Approval of Grant Agreement — Teen Parent Home Visitation and Support Service Program; State of New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department.
 - A. Request for Approval of Budget Increases — Grant Fund.
- 9) Request for Approval of Arts Service Contract — Community Arts Development Program (CADP); New Mexico Arts.
 - A. Request for Approval of Budget Increase — 1% Lodgers Tax Fund.
- 10) Request for Approval of Memorandum of Agreement — Ridefinders Program; The New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Dept.
 - A. Request for Approval of Budget Increases — Program Fund.
- 11) Request for Approval of a Resolution Authorizing and Approving Submission of an Executed Agreement for Financial Assistance to the New Mexico Environment Department, Construction Programs Bureau, for the Upgrade and Improvements to the Santa Fe Water Treatment Facility.
 - A. Request for Approval of Five (5) Grant Agreements — Santa Fe Water Treatment Facility Improvements/Upgrade; New Mexico Environment Department.
 - B. Request for Approval of Budget Increases — Grant Fund.
- 12) [Moved to Discussion Agenda by Chair Lopez.]
- 13) Request for Approval of Procurement Under State Price Agreement — Water Meters for Water Division; Hughes Supply, Inc.

- 14) Request for Approval of Joint Powers Agreement — New Mexico State/ Santa Fe Visitors Assistance Services; New Mexico Department of Tourism.
- 15) [Moved to Discussion Agenda by Councilor Wurzburger]
- 16) Request for Approval of Amendment No. 4 to Management Services Agreement — Marty Sanchez Links de Santa Fe Golf Course; New Mexico Golf Limited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 21, 2003

Councilor Wurzburger moved approval of the July 21 meeting minutes, as submitted. Councilor Heldmeyer seconded the motion, which passed 3-0 by voice vote.

DISCUSSION AGENDA

Request for Approval of Procurement Under State Price Agreement — Ten (10) Vehicles for Various Departments.

- A. Rich Ford**
- B. Bob Turner Ford**
- C. Galles Chevrolet**

Chair Lopez commented that, while going with the State Price Agreement is generally the best thing to do, perhaps buying locally would make more sense here because of the recent changes made by the Council for local preference.

Purchasing Division accounting supervisor Robert Rodarte responded “\$1,000 is almost nothing when you’re comparing a \$35,000 vehicle to a \$23,000 price we’re buying on these SPAs. We’ve gone that route many times, and we’re looking at it now on the ADA vans, where our projections on the ADA vans going out alone would be about \$45,000 and we’re looking at about mid-30’s to low-30’s on the ADA vans on an SPA that’s coming out on the 27th. The 5% is really, really irrelevant on the total amount of a vehicle.” Mr. Rodarte went on to say that all of the local dealerships are given the same bid packet.

Chair Lopez asked Mr. Rodarte when he last solicited local bids, and Mr. Rodarte responded that it was about a year ago when vehicles were purchased with General Fund monies.

Chair Lopez said that, given the strong emphasis by the City on trying to provide opportunities for local preference, “I would rather bid it locally, and if we find out indeed it holds true that the State Price Agreement is better, so be it.”

Ms. Garcia suggested postponing this item to allow the City to go out for bids, do the comparisons between the bids and the State Price Agreement, and bring it back to the Finance Committee.

Councilor Wurzburger moved to direct staff to do that. Councilor Heldmeyer seconded the motion for discussion purposes.

Councilor Heldmeyer asked how much time would be involved, and Mr. Rodarte responded that it would take ten days to do the advertising, but staff would have to develop specifications for the vehicles.

Chair Lopez suggested that Mr. Rodarte use existing specs from various available sources. She said it was not necessary to write specs from scratch.

Ms. Garcia stated that she thought the process would take at least six weeks. She added that delivery date would have to be included in the RFP, noting that the State contract could provide for a quicker delivery.

Chair Lopez said it was fine to include the delivery date in the bid package, provided this requirement did not have the effect of discouraging a local bidder. She stated, “I would not want the fact that, because someone has a statewide contract and they can get vehicles faster, it precludes a local entity from being able to compete.”

Ms. Garcia commented that sometimes it takes up to six months to have a specially ordered vehicle delivered to the City.

Councilor Heldmeyer suggested that a cutoff date be included in the RFP, because sometimes a very long lead-time can result in a company “hunting around and hunting around until they can find that vehicle at that price.”

Chair Lopez said she was not even sure any local businesses would send in bids. She suggested that staff send all of them a letter saying the City is considering this and would they be interested in bidding.

Councilor Chavez asked if local bidders have responded to these RFPs in the past, and Mr. Rodarte responded that there are several small-town dealerships that have SPAs on certain makes and models. He said the local Chevy dealership has submitted bids on various occasions but the bids are not successful.

Ms. Garcia suggested postponing this item to the next Finance Committee meeting to allow staff to determine whether any local bidders are interested; and if so, then staff can follow through.

The motion was restated to reflect that, and passed 3-0 by voice vote.

Request for Approval of Amendment No. 3 to Professional Services Agreement — Additional Design Work for Cerrillos Road Pedestrian Study and Cerrillos Road Reconstruction Project; Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade and Douglas, Inc.

Councilor Wurzbarger said she did not want this to be “another venting session on fees for engineers,” but thought these fees of \$1 million to be exorbitant and the scope of work not clear enough for her to determine what was involved. She commented that she would like to do some additional work with the Public Works Committee to see what criteria the City uses.

Engineering Division director Robert Romero responded that the \$1 million fee was to design \$30 million worth of improvements on Cerrillos Road from Airport Road to St. Francis Drive, so was about a 3% fee. He added that this proposal was for the pedestrian overpass study at the intersection: “We felt that, because this company had been working on this project, they’ve gone through the federal process and we could possibly use federal money, it would make more sense to add this to their contract. They have the mapping, they’ve worked in the area, and they know the people.”

Councilor Wurzbarger commented that, while a 3% fee is standard, the percentage should go down as the construction project grows. She said a \$1 million fee for a planning of project of this scope did not make sense to her.

Chair Lopez noted that a considerable chunk of the fee goes for liability insurance.

Councilor Wurzbarger said she was not arguing over this particular fee, since it had already been paid. Councilor Heldmeyer said that was correct, adding that “it pre-dates both of us, so I’m not sure what to say about it.”

Councilor Wurzbarger asked staff and the City Manager to meet with her and explain to her why the industry standard should have applied in this case, since she was not convinced.

Councilor Wurzbarger moved for approval. Councilor Heldmeyer seconded the motion.

Chair Lopez asked staff to bring in one of the firms and have them walk Councilor Wurzbarger through the process.

Councilor Heldmeyer stated that the Public Works Committee would shortly have a discussion on Public Works projects and how the prices grow over time. She said there are several different ways this happens; and in this particular case, the City is adding two new pieces of information that the Council has requested that were not part of the original scope. She said the City will use the expertise and research that these people have already done to get a hopefully lower price than if it were taken out to bid. Councilor Heldmeyer asked Mr. Romero to make that comparison for Councilor Wurzbarger.

Councilor Heldmeyer also commented to Mr. Romero that how these prices are arrived at can be a mystery, "and I think, in these days of very tight money, we need to start talking about ... whether there's something we can do to prevent it from happening in the future."

The motion passed 3-0 by voice vote.

Request for Approval of Proposed 2003 CIP Bond Projects.

A. Public Comment

The topic of discussion throughout this agenda item was the following draft:

PUBLIC WORKS RECURRING PROJECTS

A.	Traffic Calming	\$	2,000,000
B.	Traffic Safety	\$	300,000
C.	Municipal Facility Repairs	\$	600,000
D.	ADA Improvements	\$	300,000
E.	Unpaved Rehabilitation	\$	150,000
F.	Re-paving	\$	1,250,000
G.	Small Sidewalks	\$	100,000
H.	Small Drainage	\$	100,000
I.	Bridge Rehabilitation	\$	200,000
J.	Recycled Asphalt Program	\$	250,000
K.	Airport Matching Funds	\$	285,000
L.	Ortiz Landfill Remediation	\$	<u>200,000</u>
	SUBTOTAL:	\$	5,735,000

PARKS & RECREATION RECURRING PROJECTS

A.	Parks & Median Maintenance	\$	400,000
B.	Artificial Turf	\$	500,000
C.	Water Management/Conservation	\$	500,000
D.	Tennis Court Rehabilitation	\$	<u>200,000</u>
	SUBTOTAL:	\$	1,600,000

OTHER RECURRING PROJECTS

A.	1% for the Arts	\$	180,000
B.	Affordable Housing	\$	<u>300,000</u>
TOTAL:		\$	7,815,000

Total Bond Available:	\$	18,500,000
Minus Recurring Projects:	\$	<u>7,815,000</u>
TOTAL REMAINING:	\$	10,685,000

OTHER POSSIBLE PROJECTS

Alto Park Phase II	\$	1,700,000
Trails	\$	2,000,000
Cerrillos Road IT Conduit	\$	100,000
Fire Station #8 – Tierra Contenta	\$	2,000,000
Railyard Infrastructure	\$	350,000
Tierra Contenta Park	\$	200,000
La Cieneguita Park	\$	200,000
Siler Road Extension Design	\$	400,000
Plaza Traffic Control	\$	500,000
Rodeo Grounds Property	\$	800,000
State Game & Fish Property	\$	900,000
Effluent Line	\$	1,000,000
Southside Library	\$	<u>3,000,000</u>
TOTAL OTHER PROJECTS:		\$ 13,150,000

Responding to questioning from Chair Lopez, City Manager Jim Romero stated that phase one for the Southside Library would be about \$5.4 million for 25,000 square feet. He said phase one would be about \$3.1 million and 12,000 square feet, for a total project of \$8.5 million for 37,000 square feet.

Chair Lopez said she would like to see the City fund the \$5.4 million from its CIP because she was not totally confident that the Legislature would give the City the money.

Chair Lopez stated that the City's number one priority is its youth. She said she could not reconcile the difference between dedicating \$2 million to traffic calming versus building a library on the Southside.

Chair Lopez pointed out that a pedestrian was killed on the Plaza because of a drunk driver. She suggested taking the \$500,000 for Plaza Traffic Control and dedicating it toward Plaza Improvements. She said those monies could be augmented with private funding.

Chair Lopez recalled that the last CIP bond issue was dedicated largely to water projects. She noted that there is now a \$9 million surplus in the Water

Company, and asked Mr. Romero if those funds could be used toward Water Management/Conservation in the City parks.

Mr. Romero responded that, prior to the Effluent Line project coming forward, there was discussion about funding that through Wastewater or Water — preferably Wastewater — because it was much healthier than the Water Fund was at that point. He recommended that the majority of that project be funded with Wastewater funding.

Chair Lopez pointed out that the City is funding water conservation programs through the Water Company. She noted that Councilor Chavez sponsored a resolution that said the Water Company, when it could, would repay the monies. She commented that this wouldn't be repaying it, but it would fund a couple of appropriate things out of the Water Fund.

Referring to Fire Station #8/Tierra Contenta, Chair Lopez said that, once the Tierra Contenta Fire Station is built, the City might vacate the fire station by the Municipal Court.

Chair Lopez asked what condition the building is in, and what will vacating the building do to coverage.

Chief Dave Sperling responded that the building is in good shape, and he understood the Police Department is interested in taking over the space.

Chief Sperling distributed maps reflecting what changes in coverage will result from the location of Fire Station #8 at the corner of Cerrillos and Rodeo Road. *[Exhibit "A" to these minutes.]*

Chief Sperling stated that there is a 1.5 mile radius, which is ISO required, for engine company response around Fire Station #7 and Fire Station #8.

Chief Sperling noted that the map includes the proposed Airport Fire Station because of questions raised in the past about relocating Fire Station #8 to the Airport and then sandwiching in Tierra Contenta. He said that would leave a very significant gap in coverage to Tierra Contenta and the neighborhoods growing in that area.

Chief Sperling stated that the second page reflects the location of Fire Station #8 to the property donated to the City by Tierra Contenta. He noted that, while there is a small area outside of ISO coverage requirements, relocating Station #8 would provide much better coverage to the neighborhoods in Tierra Contenta.

Chief Sperling said it was important to note that 70% of fire responses in Santa Fe are to residential structure fires.

Chief Sperling stated that, in June, there was a structure fire at The Bluffs on Jaguar Drive. He said it took the crew from Station #8 two minutes' turnout time — a national standard — and five and a half minutes to arrive on scene, for a total response time of seven and a half minutes. He estimated that a fire station in Tierra Contenta would cut that time to one minute after turnout time, for a total of three minutes.

Responding to questioning from Councilor Chavez regarding the “rough edge” between City and County jurisdictions, Chief Sperling stated that the City first responds to everything south of Airport Road, including whatever is on Airport Road. He said the County first responds to everything north of Airport Road out of their Agua Fria district. He said the City provides a lot of first-in coverage for the County in that area because it is closest, and has an agreement with the County that the closest unit will respond.

Councilor Chavez asked if there has been any discussion with the County about sharing the cost of Fire Station #8 using County fire impact fees.

Chief Sperling responded that the County has collected \$250,000 to \$300,000 over the last several years out of their Fire Impact Fee for the Agua Fria Fire District. He said the City Fire Department has not been able to access that money, though, without an impact fee program in the City.

Chief Sperling said there has been discussion about using the monies the County has collected to replace Engine 8, which is a 1992 model in service for over ten years; if that doesn't happen, the Fire Department will have to ask the Council for the replacement money (\$250,000-\$300,000) during the budget process in the next year or so.

Chair Lopez asked the City Manager for an independent mechanical assessment on the condition of Engine 8.

Chief Sperling stated that the Fire Department keeps its equipment in good working order, but explained “our experience has shown that ten or eleven years on a fire truck, they start to be less cost effective and we start having to put more money into them than they're worth.”

Mr. Romero stated that he would report back at the next Finance Committee meeting. He said it might be possible to keep the truck in use for another two years.

Responding to questioning from Councilor Chavez, Chief Sperling stated that relocating Fire Station #8 to Tierra Contenta would bring them within a 1.5-mile radius of providing structural protection to the Airport facilities. He said crash fire

rescue to the Airport itself, though, would require a fire station right off of the runway to meet FAA requirements.

Councilor Heldmeyer remarked that ISO standards are problematic, and she knew that the Fire Chiefs Association fought them when they were proposed. She asked Chief Sperling how much of the rest of Santa Fe is not met by ISO standards.

Chief Sperling responded that there are some areas of town that do not meet ISO requirements for engine company coverage, but pointed out that many of those areas are much more sparsely populated than Tierra Contenta. He added, “And some of that, honestly, we’ve inherited. I think Tierra Contenta is an area that we can fix. Some of the other areas would be much more difficult and the cost benefit would be very questionable.”

Chief Sperling stated that ISO officials would visit Santa Fe in October to do an assessment of Fire Department response, including the Emergency Dispatch Center, Fire Department itself, and the Water Company. He said they were last in Santa Fe in 1990. He stated that coverage does play into their final determination of commercial and residential insurance rates. He said that, on a scale of one to ten — ten being the least amount of protection — the City is currently rated a Four.

Airport Manager Jim Montman clarified for Councilor Heldmeyer, in the course of discussion, that the Feds would pick up the price for the portion of the fire station that would be used for on-airport response. He said the City could build a fire station on the Airport right now under the current level of operations, and they could respond anywhere.

Mr. Montman said the other option is to have a fire station on the Airport with FAA airport apparatus and structural apparatus, and the structural part could respond anywhere. He said that, if the Airport were a Part 139 airport, the FAA truck would have to be on alert whenever aircraft was arriving and departing. If it were not a Part 139, he said, all of the apparatus could respond to any need.

Councilor Heldmeyer said she understood the City would know this November whether the Airport would be forced to become a Part 139.

Mr. Montman responded that this was correct. He added that the New Mexico Army National Guard, in their current planning for their building, are providing a facility on the Airport with two bays and floor space. He commented that it hadn’t been clear to him that they were planning this, but they are in fact committing to that.

Councilor Chavez recalled asking the National Guard, when the City was in discussions with them, if they would be dedicating some space for an emergency response fire station at the Airport. He said he had understood them to say that they weren't going to do that because "the distance would not match with the response time."

Mr. Montman commented that this wasn't correct, because the response time was actually better.

Councilor Chavez said he wished they had said so then, because that was one reason why he voted against their request.

Chair Lopez asked if a brand-new design would be done for Fire Station #8.

City Engineering director Robert Romero responded that it would be a new design because it would be smaller than the Wendy Wagner station. He said the conceptual design will be done in house and an architect hired to formalize it.

Chair Lopez suggested to City Manager Romero that the City look at options on use of the old fire station, including selling it, renting it, using it for Park & Ride, Transit, Police, etc.

Councilor Heldmeyer noted that Property Control director Richard Fiedler has undertaken an analysis of all City properties.

Councilor Wurzbarger stated that she was very depressed by the package being presented today. She said, "I agree with Councilor Lopez that the most important criteria is trading off the priorities of the City, and this has been presented as though there's a little bit here, there's a little bit there. Although not disagreeing on the importance of the Southside Library, I recall that, when I ran for office only a year and a half ago... the number one priority for the City was water." She said only one item in the entire package related to water.

Councilor Wurzbarger commented that this made her very uncomfortable, because she thought it shortsighted. She said a quick look at the list of projects would seem to indicate that the City has solved the water situation, when obviously it hasn't. She expressed concern that the City would be tying its hands for the next few two to four years, and then there might not be enough money to fund water projects that are necessary.

Addressing Traffic Calming, Councilor Wurzbarger said she was not comfortable making any decisions on projects until the evaluation was in, but there were two issues that stood out for her:

1) What is the impact of traffic calming with respect to “not just making people feel better that cars are going more slowly in their neighborhood,” but on critical issues of accidents and death.

2) The City does 22,000 speeding tickets a year. How many people actually are prosecuted by the Court, and to what end? How much do they pay? The City doesn’t have this information. The City needs to explore the idea of raising speeding tickets to \$250 or \$300 and then enforcing the law and collecting the fines.

Councilor Wurzbarger continued, “If we look at the notion of a hierarchy of objectives as a City, what are our most important ones? We can’t do everything, and we have to have the courage as a Council to say that.”

Councilor Wurzbarger asked staff, therefore, to look at “the evolution of the traffic calming to see where that is,” and why water was barely addressed in this CIP bond package.

Regarding Chair Lopez’ discussion on Plaza improvements, Councilor Heldmeyer said she and Councilor Bushee met with City Manager Jim Romero about the plan being proposed for the Plaza, who indicated that “money isn’t the problem, time is the problem.” She asked him to comment.

Mr. Romero responded that this was correct. He said there is some money in Parks right now, and that could be used to implement the LOCALS program and do most of the beautification work on the Plaza. He said he felt very comfortable that it could be done with the money available and with existing staff.

Chair Lopez commented that was great — she would propose putting that \$500,000 money into the Southside Library instead.

Councilor Heldmeyer commented that the CIP bond package was put together in an attempt to balance two issues — the future of children, and the safety of children.

Councilor Heldmeyer stated that Traffic Calming is in fact a safety issue, and it can be empirically demonstrated that people have slowed down as a result of these projects, but she could not point to whether or not the number of pedestrian deaths has decreased because there have not been very many.

Councilor Heldmeyer said she would hate to see the entire Traffic Calming budget cut out altogether, because not only was it addressing safety, but also it was taking “needed public safety resources off of those streets where the neighbors, time after time, call and ask us to come out and give tickets. And it doesn’t make a difference because the police can’t be there 24/7.”

Addressing projects originally proposed for District 2, Councilor Heldmeyer stated that she was very concerned about the lack of sidewalks along Old Pecos Trail near the museums because of the number of children who have to walk along the roadside.

The floor was opened to public comment.

Dorothy Doyle

Ms. Doyle, a member of the Santa Fe Library Board of Directors and a member of the Board of Directors for the Northern New Mexico Radio Foundation, governing board for KSFR, came forward in favor of the Southside Library project.

Ms. Doyle stated that the building of “a real library is of benefit to the entire city, and that is sometimes overlooked.” She said it has taken ten years to get this library off the ground, and in that time two year olds living in Tierra Contenta are now 12 years old. She said, “If it takes much longer, you’re going to have juveniles, a safety issue, a lot of other issues going where you’re going to need a lot more police, because there isn’t even a community room in that area.”

[See Exhibit “A.1” for statistical paper submitted by Ms. Doyle.]

Bob Barberousse

Addressing the Recycled Asphalt Program with a proposed \$250,000 budget, Mr. Barberousse said a number of residents in his area have met with Engineering staff and the Mayor because of a desperate need for paving in the Vista Encantado area. He said the roads include Calle Largo, Paseo Barranca, Governor Dempsey Drive, and Calle Santa Maria.

Mr. Barberousse said the residents are more than willing to pay their part toward this project. He commented that it is now a safety and health issue because of the amount of dust in and around people’s homes. He stated that the grader has been out there two or three times in the last three months, and the base is gone from the road and “it jars the fillings out of your teeth.”

Mr. Barberousse stated that residents on the different streets were polled as to whether they wanted this paving, with the following results:

Paseo Barranca, 18 houses: 13 for; four against; one “no response.”

Calle Santa Maria, five houses: three for; two “no response.”

Governor Dempsey: 17 for; four against; four “neutral.”

Karen Hancock

Ms. Hancock, a resident of Whispering Ridge in Tierra Contenta, said this neighborhood is adjacent to the Southside Library site.

Ms. Hancock stated that a high quality library is desperately needed in Tierra Contenta, where there is nothing there “except house after house, and nothing that is binding us together. To me, the library, as the first institution to come in there, has an incredible opportunity that we haven’t seen before — to be that binding force and to be what brings our area some character.”

Ms. Hancock said she has three children who are two, four and seven, and all of them will be able to take advantage of this library. She stated that she tries to take her children to the other libraries in Santa Fe, “and there’s no room. You have to sign up a month in advance. You go, and then you still can’t get in.”

Ms. Hancock suggested that locating the library in Tierra Contenta would be “on the front side of safety rather than the back side, because by being able to build community around that library, it will make it a nicer place, people feel more responsible and have that sense of community that would come from that library.”

David Meyers

Mr. Meyers, a resident of Tierra Contenta, said the Southside Library “is about youth and it is about education... at all levels. Libraries are one of the best youth and adult education facilities in the world. Many of our greatest writers educated themselves completely in public libraries — Ernest Hemingway, Richard Wright, Howard Fast, just to mention a few.

“In terms of economics, for every dollar you invest in this library, your return will be manifold for the whole city and for the whole state.

“Public libraries are the most democratic institutions in this country. Anybody can walk in the door and educate herself and himself about the issues and with the need for knowledge in our country today, it’s the lifeblood of our democracy.”

Daphne DeLeon

Ms. DeLeon, a resident of Tierra Contenta, stated that a literate and educated population is the framework of American society and its functionality. She said libraries extend the learning experience that begins at home and is formalized in the classroom.

Ms. DeLeon said she is an archivist who works 40 hours a week preserving the documented history of New Mexico, which then is available to the citizens of New Mexico. She stated that, as a judge for New Mexico History Day, which is based on primary sources, for the last five years there has not been a junior or senior paper submitted that deals with New Mexico history. She said this is partly because people do not know there is a State institution that does this that is trying to spend money to make these documents accessible over the Internet — but without a library or a PC that can download TIF or JPEG files of handwritten documents in Spanish, a person cannot access them. She said this widens the divide between people who have computers and library access and those who don't on the Southside.

Judy Havey

Ms. Havey, a resident of Tierra Contenta, read a letter from Royallynn Allen, another resident of Tierra Contenta, which deplored the “dumbed-down library you have been promoting of late,” and urged the City to construct “a standalone complete beautiful library with books to the rafters, study/meeting rooms, that’s what we want, not a Book Stop at the shopping mall.” *[Letter submitted as Exhibit “A.2.”]*

Jane Gillentine

Ms. Gillentine, president of the Friends of the Santa Fe Public Library, stated that her group “certainly wants to work with you in a very positive way to see that a good library comes into existence in Tierra Contenta.”

Susan Kantor

Ms. Kantor said she works for the Friends of the Santa Fe Public Library and lives in District 4. She expressed her support for the library system and the building of a new library in the south side of Santa Fe.

Leda Scoggins

Ms. Scoggins, executive director for the Santa Fe Railyard Community Corp, asked for support of the \$350,000 proposed allocation for Railyard infrastructure.

Chair Lopez noted that the City has already agreed to do that.

Public Works director Mike Lujan said that was correct. He said the money was part of the lease and management agreement with the Railyard Corp and committed to by the City.

This concluded public comments.

Councilor Coss observed that the list of Other Possible Projects on the CIP list is now up to \$13,150,000, so “from the get-go we need to cut \$3 million out of that just to start.”

Councilor Coss stated that the projects on the entire list have to be weighed with promises made to the community along with safety and youth education. He said he would put the Southside Library “on top of the list,” given the recent release of the list of schools on probation, most of them around the proposed library site.

Councilor Coss recalled the Council also promising to fix up the river about ten years ago, “and there’s not a nickel in here for the Santa Fe River.”

Councilor Coss also recalled the Council committing to the Bikeways Master Plan about ten years ago by completing a trails network.

Councilor Coss stated that, as the Council “carves and jiggles,” it also should look at other funding sources, e.g., the Lodgers Tax. He wondered how much Lodgers Tax might be available if the \$47 million for the civic center project were not expended, and part of it spent for sidewalks, Plaza beautification, matching funds for projects, etc.

Councilor Coss suggested that the City look at improvement districts for cold milling projects, sidewalk projects, etc., and Councilor Heldmeyer said that was about to come to the Public Works Committee.

On the matter of impact fees, Councilor Coss thought it noteworthy that 70% of the growth in Santa Fe consists of people moving here from other places.

Councilor Coss agreed with Councilor Wurzbarger that water is the main priority, but pointed out that \$10.5 million was taken out of the last bond issue for water — and now the City is looking at a \$200 million CIP for water. He said the City couldn’t indefinitely put off all the needs and promises it has made to the community in order to come up with the \$200 million.

Addressing Alto Park Phase II, Chair Lopez asked Robert Romero if the first phase has been completed.

Mr. Romero responded that the City put Phase I out to bid twice. He said the landscape architect’s estimate is about \$1.2 million. He stated that, on the first round, the City got two bids, at \$1.6 million and \$3 million. On the second round, he said, they took out some things to get it back within budget, and got one bid for \$1.6 million. He said contractors are saying that, because that park has a

little bit of landscaping, a little bit of parking lot, a little of other amenities, nobody wants to bond \$1.5 million when they only have \$3 million worth of work.

Mr. Romero said now staff is thinking about putting it out in pieces, starting off with the field and the parking lot, then see what is left, etc.

Chair Lopez commented that this project should even be in the bond package, then, because Phase I won't be completed. She suggested postponing Phase II for two years, during which time staff can rethink the project.

Chair Lopez said that would free up \$1.7 million for the Southside Library.

On Trails, Chair Lopez said she agreed with Councilor Coss that there are problems for bicyclists. She asked Councilor Coss if "Trails" also alludes to bikes.

Councilor Coss said that was correct. He stated that the trails planned in the Trail Master Plan always include pedestrians and bicyclists. He said that would primarily be the Rail Trail, River Trail, and Acequia Madre Trail if any money is left.

Chair Lopez suggested cutting the Trails budget from \$2 million to \$1 million, since it would be very difficult to do \$2 million worth of work in two years.

Councilor Heldmeyer said there is some unexpended money for the River Trail because staff was asked to come up with a plan, and the plan they came back with far exceeded budget. She stated that the plan has been sent back to CIP for a redesign and asked Robert Romero to comment.

Mr. Romero said there is about \$1.2 million in the budget for that, and the original design (as was directed) included about \$1 million in roadway improvements and \$1 million in parks. He stated that staff is now assessing what can be done just in the park and eliminating as much roadway improvement as possible on Alameda. He stated that the plan should be completed in about five weeks.

Chair Lopez stated that she would like information on the various projects that are pending on this list. She said the City is supposed to be prepared to begin projects it sells the bonds for.

Councilor Coss said the money for the River Trail is in the downtown, and is Lodgers Tax money — and while he supports it, it doesn't help the connectivity issue, where someone can get on their bike on the Southside and ride all the way to the downtown. He stated that, once a person is in the downtown, it helps,

though, in getting across streets. He said from Camino Alire down there is no trail and people have to ride in the riverbed.

Councilor Coss said he would be willing to work with people on the Trails issue.

Chair Lopez said she has learned that the City has money in its various affordable housing funds. She suggested that the City commit the \$300,000 set aside as an Affordable Housing line item and be put toward buying the State Game & Fish Property for affordable housing and open space.

Councilor Heldmeyer said her understanding is that the area residents feel that property has been promised to them as open space only.

Chair Lopez stated that the problem people have is when affordable housing is “stuffed into” a place without any open space. She said she thought both could be provided on that property.

Chair Lopez added that perhaps Legislative monies could be added to the \$300,000. She said the City might be able to reduce the price tag to less than the \$900,000 being asked by Game & Fish.

Councilor Heldmeyer said perhaps the Rodeo Grounds Property (\$800,000) should be dropped, then, since obviously the City “can’t buy everything.”

City Manager Jim Romero clarified, in response to questions, that the City currently has, from the past cycle, \$500,000 for affordable housing infrastructure. He said the \$300,000 in the Affordable Housing line item would be added to that.

Councilor Wurzbarger pointed out that none of the infrastructure monies have been used, and Mr. Romero said that was correct.

On the Tierra Contenta fire station, Chair Lopez noted that, if the City can get \$300,000 out of impact fees for that, it would bring the price tag down to \$1.7 million.

Responding to questioning from the Chair, Robert Romero explained that the Rodeo Grounds property is listed at \$800,000 through a Realtor.

Chair Lopez asked how much it would cost for an appraisal, and Mr. Romero said about \$1,000.

Chair Lopez said she would like information on whether the property is worth \$800,000.

Chair Lopez pointed out that, when Governor Miles is connected to Jaguar, Districts 3 and 4 will have a whole new sense of neighborhood because people going to the GCCC can come down Jaguar to Governor Miles, etc. By the same token, she said, kids on bikes can cross Governor Miles at a safe traffic light and get to the Southside library.

Chair Lopez stated, “If we did pay for the \$1 million effluent line, and if we did pay for water conservation in our parks out of the Water Company, out of a \$9 million surplus that’s there, that’s owed, that was agreed to be paid, it’s related to water — right there, we’re only about \$700,000 away from having enough for the Southside Library.” She said she would therefore like to know if the effluent line could be bought with Water Company revenue or Wastewater.

City Manager Romero also stated that it would be “extremely tough to spend two million dollars for trails and bike lanes over the next two year period.” He said Engineering staff is much more comfortable with \$1 million over the next two years.

On the matter of Traffic Calming and Traffic Safety, Chair Lopez said there are three sites where pedestrians have been killed. She said one is Second Street/Cerrillos Road, where a woman was crossing with the light and was run down, and there have not been any improvements there. She said there are inadequate improvements at the DeVargas Mall crossing and there have been three fatalities there, at least. She added that there is also a problem at Cordova Road, where people cross in the middle of the road.

Chair Lopez asked staff to look into how much it would cost to install raised crosswalks in those areas. She suggested moving some Traffic Calming money into fixing those actual intersections where people have been killed.

Councilor Heldmeyer stated that Traffic Calming and Traffic Safety are really one category — traffic safety — however, there are a couple of projects that she would like to submit from her district. She said one is Cordova/Don Diego, “an absolute godawful mess.” She stated that she was also interested in sidewalks— the City was going to do them, and got money from the State to do the rest of Old Pecos Trail, but ran out of money. She said the sidewalks were to go from Cordova/Armenta to the split of Old Santa Fe Trail/Old Pecos Trail, although that is a more expensive project and she didn’t know if the City could do it without State money, but she would like to look into it.

Councilor Heldmeyer noted that, in City terms, Cordova/Don Diego is a fairly inexpensive project and is an intersection where there are major safety problems — while the problems are more vehicular than pedestrian, certainly a raised crosswalk could be included.

Councilor Heldmeyer said the crosswalk further down Cordova with the flashing lights was installed there when the Cordova Road Post Office was located there. She suggested moving the crosswalk to a safer place.

Chair Lopez said that was a good idea — either improve it or get rid of it.

Councilor Heldmeyer noted that there is other money available for the Don Diego/Cordova intersection project, which will cost \$150,000. She said a developer has donated \$10,000 and another business has some right of way pledged.

Chair Lopez asked if the County plans to commit money toward the Siler Road Extension. She said she saw no point in putting money into the extension design if the bridge is not going to be built. She stated that she worked on the Siler Road bridge project years ago with the Legislature, but eventually gave up because there is so much controversy as to where the river crossing should be — should it be at Siler, should it be at Richards, or should it be at Camino Carlos Rael.

Chair Lopez stated that, without everyone agreeing on the crossing, the City can't get legislative money and it certainly can't afford to build the crossing on its own.

Robert Romero noted that staff has been working on the Paseo de Vista study, which runs parallel to the bypass and Alameda and Agua Fria. He commented that apparently people thought that, when the bypass was built, drivers would start coming into town via Camino de los Montoyas, which hasn't happened. He said, "When we looked at the numbers, it doesn't seem like building Paseo de Vistas is going to help the traffic situation. What we think will help, and we're going to the public with this in the next few weeks, is a crossing at Siler and improving Alameda up to 70 and then possibly something in the future along Buckman Road down to Guadalupe." He said the latter would be very expensive, but he thought the first two projects would have the most beneficial impact to the area.

Chair Lopez commented that the City should look at public hearings unless all of a sudden everyone decides to agree on the Siler Road crossing, since up to now there hasn't been any consensus. She added that the Council has passed a number of resolutions regarding Camino Carlos Rael, and the City hasn't been able to reach an agreement on fixing it because of problems with the County and City.

Councilor Coss said he would like to resolve the Camino Carlos Rael issue by closing that road. He stated that the Siler Road crossing was in the Arterial Roads Task Force report that was adopted by the Council, and he would like to

see a bridge there. He said the lack of a bridge has created an incredible impact on Camino Carlos Rael and the Village of Agua Fria.

Chair Lopez asked Robert Romero if matching monies or other monies were available for the bridge.

Mr. Romero responded that some monies could come from the capital outlay fund if the City went to the Legislature and asked for design money.

Chair Lopez suggested that the City consider putting in \$400,000 toward the crossing if it helps get State money. She added that the City might get some good support from Commissioner Schutz, the new Highway Commissioner.

Councilor Heldmeyer noted that the RPA prioritized this project, but there was dissension among the members about the best location for the crossing. She recalled some discussion about the fact that one crossing would be more likely to get State funds than another.

Robert Romero pointed out that there are no Highway Department funds right now — with the Cerrillos Road project underway, he was not sure what kind of priority the crossing would receive because it doesn't tie into a State highway. He recalled discussion at the RPA about the receipt of capital outlay money to improve the crossing at Camino Carlos Rael -- \$25,000 to \$50,000. He said the Arterial Roads Task Force report calls for closing that road whenever a crossing at Siler is built.

Mr. Romero also noted that the ARTF plan calls for doing the extension of Paseo de Vistas before doing the Siler crossing, but that road no longer makes any sense.

Mr. Romero said the plan would have to be adjusted to some extent.

Mr. Romero also stated that he did not know if there was consensus on the Siler Road crossing. He commented that many people opposed the Paseo de Vistas extension, and perhaps they would oppose the Siler Road project as well.

Mr. Romero said perhaps the design idea could be set aside for now and the City could do some kind of study by holding some preliminary public meetings to see if people are interested or not.

Councilor Coss calculated that nearly all of the \$5.4 million for the first phase of the library, based on the discussion today, could be achieved as follows:

Plaza Traffic:	\$ 500,000
Alto Park:	\$ 1,700,000
Trails:	\$ 1,000,000
Game & Fish Property:	\$ 900,000
Impact Fees for Fire Station:	\$ 300,000
Effluent Line:	\$ 500,000
Siler Road Extension Design	<u>\$ 400,000</u>
	\$ 5,300,000

Councilor Coss noted that he hadn't added Traffic Calming monies to that.

Chair Lopez reiterated that, in terms of Water Management /Conservation, the City look at taking the \$500,000 for that out of the \$9 million Water Company surplus.

City Manager Romero said he would hesitate to call those surplus monies; rather, he would call it revenues over expenditures, and so he was sure it would be earmarked for water projects. He added that the Water Management/Conservation money was for the evapotranspiration systems being installed in City parks to monitor rainfall, etc.

Chair Lopez said that was water conservation. She questioned the difference between that and an effluent line. She stated that the City is required to provide water to these areas because they are public spaces. She asked Mr. Romero to look into this and see if it is possible.

Councilor Coss stated that, from meeting with Ms. Raveling and the Water Company staff, he understood that the scenario calls for using the \$9 million plus other accumulated monies to hold down rate increases on the water bill. He said taking out \$500,000 could result in a rate increase, depending on the scenario.

Councilor Heldmeyer commented that most of the things raised by members tonight were also raised as suggestions by the Public Works Committee, with the single exception being the delay on Alto Park Phase II.

**Request for Approval to Publish Notice of Public Hearing on
October 8, 2003, of an Ordinance Amending Sections 20-4 and
20-18 SFCC 1987 Regarding Graffiti and Spray Paint Sales
(Councilors Chavez, Heldmeyer, Lopez.)**

City Planner Jeanne Price reported that the Public Works Committee met with the Public Utilities Committee and came up with this bill, mainly removing a controversial provision about record keeping.

Ms. Price said staff proposes two more amendments for the bill prior to the public hearing:

1) To include an effective date of January 1, 2004, which would give time for staff to educate the public and the public to get their facilities up and running in compliance with these rules.

2) Page 5, paragraph B, which states that wholesalers are supposed to keep track of sales, should be deleted. The Police Department has indicated that, if the City doesn't require retailers to do that, then it shouldn't worry about the wholesalers.

Councilor Wurzburger moved for approval to publish notice. Councilor Heldmeyer seconded the motion, which passed 2-0 by voice vote. [Councilor Chavez was not present for this action.]

Request for Approval of Grant Application — Reconstruction of Runway 15-33 at Santa Fe Municipal Airport; Federal Aviation Administration.

A. Request for Approval of Grant Award and Signatory Provisions.

Airport Manager Jim Montman stated that this would not cost any money right now, although the City would commit to the 5% that it typically does for federal grants out of the Airport Improvement Program. He said a budget adjustment request would be brought forward at a later date.

Councilor Wurzburger moved for approval. Councilor Heldmeyer seconded the motion, which passed 2-0 by voice vote. [Councilor Chavez was not present for this action.]

ADJOURN

Its business completed, the Committee adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:10 p.m.

Accepted by:

Councilor Carol Robertson Lopez, Chair

Reviewed by:

Kathryn Raveling, Finance Director

Submitted by:

Judith S. Beatty, Recorder